LIMITED OFFICIAL USE S3A875

1954

PAGE 01 GEORGE 03869 2220142

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 FDRE-00 ARA-11 SCS-06 CA-01 EB-08
/086 W

019999 2220272 /47

O 221800Z NOV 78
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8141

AID/OFDA
ELOG/SCS
GWO/ARA
SCS
ARA
MR
P

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 3869

AIDAC

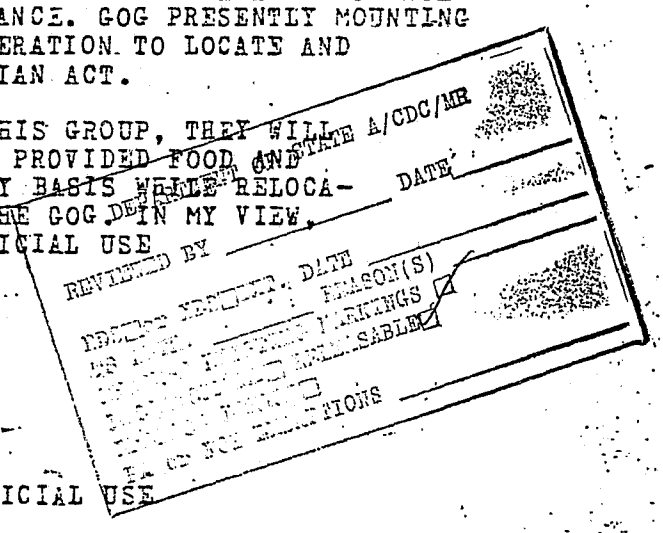
FOR OFDA

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: DISASTER ASSISTANCE TO GUYANA

1. ACCORDING TO AVAILABLE SKETCHY AND CONFLICTING INFORMATION IT IS POSSIBLE TEE THERE ARE SOME 300-500 PEOPLE WHO HAVE FLED JUNGLE AREA OF NORTHWEST GUAIANA AT SITE NAMED JONESTOWN FOLLOWING MURDER/SUICIDE OF APPROXIMATELY 400 PERSONS THAT LOCATION. THESE PEOPLE ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE FLED JUNGLE REFUGE, FLOATED DOWN RIVERS IN MAKESHIFT RAFTS OR POSSIBLY HAVE FOUND TEMPORARY SAFEHAVEN IN REMOTE, ISOLATED VILLAGES IN GENERAL AREA AROUND JONESTOWN. THEY, HOPEFULLY, WILL EMERGE FROM JUNGLE OR WHATEVER TEMPORARY SANCTUARY THEY HAVE FOUND ONCE REASSURED IT SAFE TO MAKE APPEARANCE. GOG PRESENTLY MOUNTING COMBINED SEARCH PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATION TO LOCATE AND ASSIST THESE PEOPLE AS HUMANITARIAN ACT.

2. TO FACILITATE ASSISTANCE TO THIS GROUP, THEY WILL HAVE TO BE CENTRALLY LOCATED AND PROVIDED FOOD AND SHELTER ON AN EMERGENCY TEMPORARY BASIS WHILE RELOCATION EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE BY THE GOG. IN MY VIEW,

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE



LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 GEORGE 03869 2220142

THE SITUATION WARRANTS EMERGENCY DISASTER ASSISTANCE OF A LIMITED NATURE FOR THE BASIC HUMAN NEEDS OF MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN SURVIVORS. ACCORDINGLY, I HAVE MADE A DETERMINATION THAT A DISASTER EXISTS WHICH WARRANTS U.S. ASSISTANCE.
BURKE